Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-13 (canceled).

Claim 14 (currently amended). A method for inhibiting binding between an ss3939 polypeptide and a binding partner of said ss3939 polypeptide, the method comprising providing an isolated soluble polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of ~~SEQ ID NO:5 (~~amino acids 22 through 227 of SEQ ID NO:2~~)~~, amino acids 24 through 227 of SEQ ID NO:2, and amino acids 25 through 227 of SEQ ID NO:2; wherein the binding partner of said ss3939 polypeptide is expressed by human umbilical vein endothelial cells.

Claim 15 (previously presented). The method of claim 14 wherein the ss3939 polypeptide is expressed by a dendritic cell.

Claim 16 (previously presented). The method of claim 14 wherein the binding partner of the ss3939 polypeptide comprises one or more polysaccharide moieties.

Claim 17 (currently amended). The method of claim 14 wherein the soluble polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of ~~SEQ ID NO:5~~amino acids 22 through 227 of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 18 (previously presented). The method of claim 14 wherein the soluble polypeptide is an oligomer.

Claim 19 (previously presented). The method of claim 18 wherein the soluble polypeptide is a dimer.

Claim 20 (previously presented). The method of claim 14 wherein the soluble polypeptide comprises an Fc polypeptide.

Claim 21 (previously presented). The method of claim 14 wherein the soluble polypeptide comprises a leucine zipper.

Claim 22 (withdrawn). The method of claim 14 wherein the method comprises providing the polypeptide *in vivo*.

Claim 23 (previously presented). The method of claim 14 wherein the method comprises providing the polypeptide *in vitro*.

Claim 24 (currently amended). A method for inhibiting binding between an ss3939 polypeptide and a binding partner of said ss3939 polypeptide, the method comprising providing an isolated soluble polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of ~~SEQ ID NO:5 (~~amino acids 22 through 227 of SEQ ID NO:2~~)~~, wherein the binding partner of said ss3939 polypeptide is expressed by human umbilical vein endothelial cells.

Claim 25 (previously presented). The method of claim 24 wherein the ss3939 polypeptide is expressed by a dendritic cell.

Claim 26 (previously presented). The method of claim 24 wherein the binding partner of the ss3939 polypeptide comprises one or more polysaccharide moieties.

Claim 27 (previously presented). The method of claim 24 wherein the soluble polypeptide is an oligomer.

Claim 28 (previously presented). The method of claim 24 wherein the soluble polypeptide comprises an Fc polypeptide.

Claim 29 (withdrawn). The method of claim 24 wherein the method comprises providing the polypeptide *in vivo*.

Claim 30 (currently amended). A method for inhibiting binding between an ss3939 polypeptide and a binding partner of said ss3939 polypeptide, the method comprising providing an isolated soluble polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence that is at least 90% identical to ~~SEQ ID NO:5 (~~amino acids 22 through 227 of SEQ ID NO:2~~)~~ and comprises at least 20 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the binding partner of said ss3939 polypeptide is expressed by human umbilical vein endothelial cells, and wherein the soluble polypeptide binds to human umbilical vein endothelial cells.

Claim 31 (currently amended). The method of claim 30, wherein the soluble polypeptide is at least 95% identical to ~~SEQ ID NO:5 (~~amino acids 22 through 227 of SEQ ID NO:2~~)~~.

Claim 32 (currently amended). The method of claim 30, wherein the soluble polypeptide has from one to ten deletions, insertions, or substitutions of amino acid residues when compared to ~~SEQ ID NO:5~~amino acids 22 through 227 of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 33 (currently amended). The method of claim 32, wherein the soluble polypeptide has from one to ten conservative substitutions of amino acid residues when compared to ~~SEQ ID NO:5~~amino acids 22 through 227 of SEQ ID NO:2.